

1-12-1805

# Land Deed, Rutherford County, NC, 12 January 1805

Author Unknown

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## Recommended Citation

Unknown, Author, "Land Deed, Rutherford County, NC, 12 January 1805" (1805). *Personal and Business Correspondence, 1821-1840 (Series 1.1)*. 65.

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Hopewell near Columbia Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> 1836.

Dear Mother,

It is with impatience, that I have waited so long for a communication from you or some of you, but suppose it is in this as in many other cases, out of sight out of mind;

Since I returned from seeing you safe home, I have written two letters one to you & one to Brother, to which I have had no answers, which has created some uneasiness in my mind, as I know not what to judge of, as the cause, we should be very glad to have the pleasure of reading a letter from you, as we wish to hear how you are all getting along, both as regards health, & your crop, and any other particulars of interest, connected with our families, I have wrote to John, & to Adoniram, but have received nothing from them, & know not what they are doing or how they are,

As to the health of Columbia, & the country round about, at this time it is only tolerable, some severe bilious fevers have been in Town & some deaths; aged middle aged & young, have dropped off, and there has been more chill & fever there this summer & fall than usual, just you remember, was sick before you left, Elizabeth has had a pretty severe attack, but is fast recovering, Ella has been & is now quite sick tho. we don't think her dangerous, & my own family, thus far have been very much blessed with health, except colds, & Polly, who was sick when you left us, & is no better yet, but reduced to a mere shadow, & we are of opinion she must die, Dr. Toland gave her up as incurable, some six or eight weeks ago, we then employed an old gentle man by the name of Faust, a root & herb doctor, & for some time we flattered ourselves, she would recover, but she began to fall back, & finally he has given her up for lost, & I think there is no earthly chance for her, & we are worn out, nursing her, & feel it we be better for her & ourselves if the Lord would take her out of her suffering, I have never been well since



as to my husb & C. I was with you, am now suffering much from a severe cold & a violent cough, a soreness across the bowels, & considerable pain in my right side, I feel very sensibly, that I shall be a great sufferer, should I live a few years;

As to Religious matters in these parts, & in Columbia, it is very scarce, & may be well said, at low water mark, & I think all thro' this country, it is at the same ratio, I think as I have long thought, it will be hard work & tight squeezing for me to get heaven, tho' I shall try to walk & look that way, should I fail, the blame will belong to myself;

As to Eliza I think she will stand the tug pretty well, should she be found wanting, when the balance is struck, it will be but a poor chance for the rest of our family. For I doubt, (Francis excepted) if any more of us stand a the least chance for heaven;

As to my ever becoming a member in any way, of the Methodist E. Church again, I do not believe I ever shall, & I do not suppose any of my boys ever will, So God only, can tell how all this will result;

I suppose that Eliza will live & die a Methodist, if they do not turn her out for nonattendance, which I have looked for & do expect will be the case, for she will not attend Church but very seldom, and never stays to nor is she present at a Class meeting or a love feast, & very rarely at the Sacrament Table, tho' they may bear with her, just to save appearances, & thereby keep her as the only one, of the name in this region;

I hope God may bless & prosper you my dear Aunt Mother, & may give you grace equal to your day, pray for me & believe me as ever, your affectionate tho. unworthy son Benjamin Gadswell

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we have



N.B. Jas. was gone to Florida, when I got home from your house, and he & Wm. has made a purchase in that country, amounting to Thirty Five Thousand five hundred Dollars, have paid Ten Thousand on the first day of this month & are preparing to pay Ten Thousand more on the first day of December next & the Balance they have one, two & three years, they think the crops now on the plantation will pay the Ten Thousand to be paid in December & probably more, Wm. thinks he will make at least

Fifty (400 bwt) Bales of Cotton on his own place, he is going and packing carrying to market, (Say five Miles to Salakappa) & getting \$17-00 per bwt, & they are of opinion they will get \$18- to 19 per bwt, the market is improving in various parts; in Charleston it \$20- & so on to \$21 & 22 per bwt & they hope to share some of the profits at least; Jas. & Wm's wife expects to set out for Florida in a few days; All the family joins in love to you & all the family, I was thunderstruck last night, while sick in bed, by being told, by Mr. Turner, that Jim had sold his possessions & had his sail on Thursday last, and was going off pack & package, & to take you with him to the west; I suppose if Turner had not called & let me know it you would all have been gone, me ignorant as to the fact, & as to what had become of you all & mother among the rest. deeply grieved, but can't help ourselves, I suppose, our next meeting, will be in a better or worse world. A. A. H. H. H.



For the purchase 1836

2 Mrs Amelia Traddell,  
Emminsville Putturbord County,  
Hair 3 North Carolina.  
Attention of Mr. Turner